

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

Reserva

A99.61

F762P

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
LIBRARY



Reserve

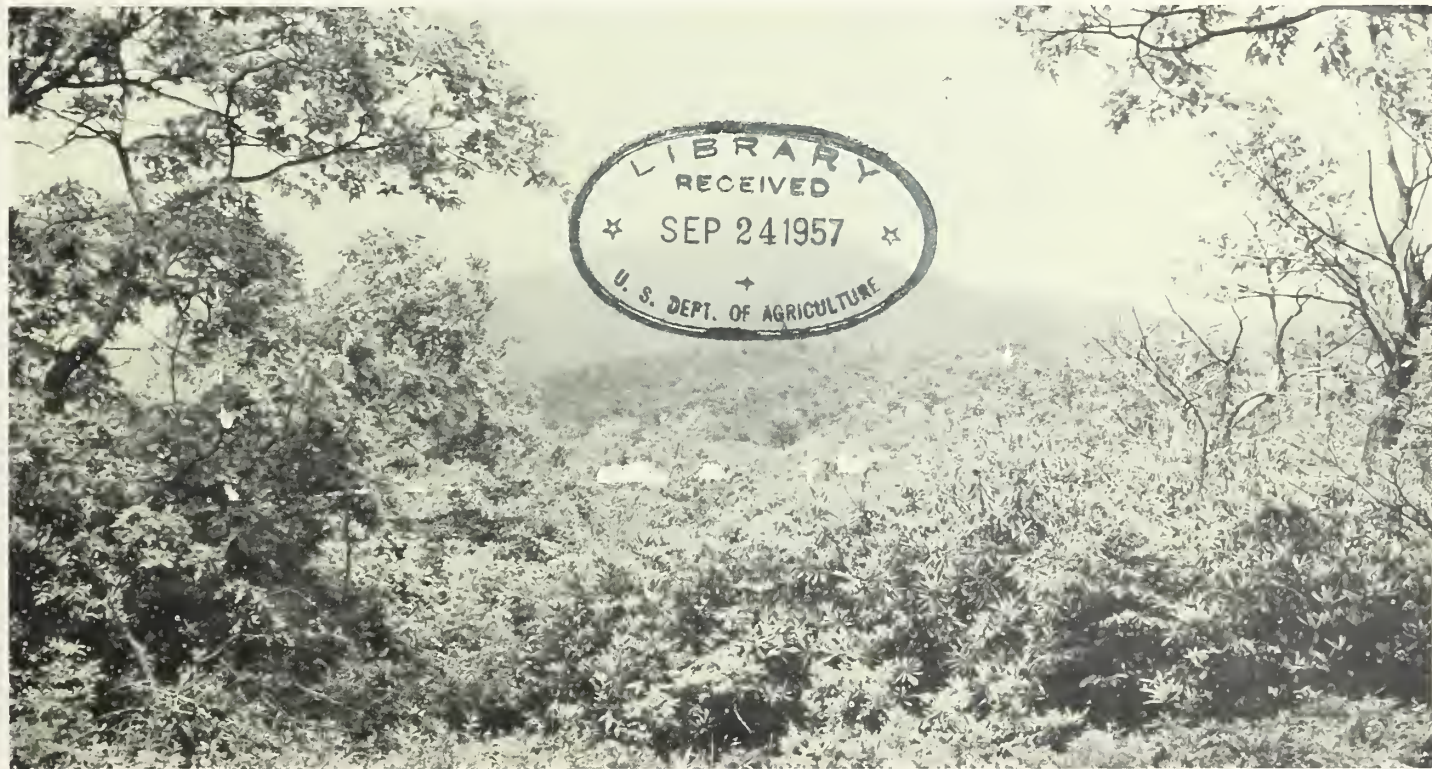
BOOK NUMBER

581734

A99.61
F762P

PISGAH

NATIONAL FOREST



Mount Pisgah from Pisgah Inn.

F 443170

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • FOREST SERVICE

PISGAH NATIONAL FOREST lies in the western part of North Carolina near the southern end of the Appalachian Mountains, and it extends over an area roughly 100 miles long and 40 miles wide. About 478,000 acres are in Government ownership. Like other national forests, the Pisgah is managed for the protection of watersheds, the growing of timber, and the development of all other resources, with due consideration for the relative value of each. Recreation is one of the important activities in this national forest.

Watershed protection was a primary objective in the establishment of national forests in the southern Appalachians, because water is a major resource. The forest cover and soil on the mountain slopes must be maintained and protected so that the watersheds can absorb rainfall and thereby hold back potential flood water, and feed clear, pure water gradually into streams for domestic, municipal, and industrial use. Major rivers such as the Tennessee, Catawba, and Pee Dee, and many lesser streams, rise in the mountains of the Pisgah. Six local communities—Hendersonville, Brevard, Hot Springs, Weaverville, Old Fort, and Marion—obtain their water directly from streams of the national forest.

The Pisgah's extensive stands of timber are contributing heavily and increasingly to the Nation's supply of forest products. Forest and timber types range from oaks and yellow pines of the Piedmont up through the typical mountain forest of yellow-poplar, white pine, and hemlock, to the spruce and fir of the mountain tops. The principal forest products are sawlogs for lumber, pulpwood for paper, dogwood cuts for shuttle blocks, and veneer logs.

Lands now in Government ownership on the forest had largely been logged over prior to purchase, and many areas had been severely burned. The immediate task is to build up the timber resources of these depleted lands. Present annual cut is approximately 18 million board-feet. All timber is harvested under Government supervision and managed so that the yield will be sustained permanently. Under this system, the forest contributes its share to the welfare and economic stability of nearby communities. Cutting and logging are done with due regard to protection of slopes from quick surface runoff and erosion, and protection of scenic and recreational values.

Income from the forest's timber sales and other uses is paid into the United States Treasury. Twenty-five percent of the receipts are turned over to the State to be returned to the counties in which the national forest is located, to be used for roads and schools.

The many recreational opportunities and fine summer climate bring thousands of visitors an-

nually. Two main ranges, several lesser ranges, and twenty 6,000-foot peaks combine to exhibit mountain scenery unusual in eastern North America. Mount Mitchell at 6,684 feet is the highest point east of the Mississippi River. The varied forest cover includes the famous flowering rhododendrons, laurels, and azaleas. There is a profusion of color throughout the season, from the pink of the redbud in early April to the flaming colors of leaves in late October. Many clear, cold mountain streams, with numerous cascades and falls add to the beauty of the forest.

The area is accessible through a network of roads and some 600 miles of trail, including part of the famous Appalachian Trail. The Blue Ridge Parkway follows the crest of the Blue Ridge range through highly scenic parts of the forest. Twenty-four public recreation areas have been developed, and the necessary sanitary facilities, fire grates, safe water, tables, and rain shelters are provided. Camping, swimming, and other facilities are available at these locations (see list on map side).

Linville Gorge Wild Area encompasses a beautiful, rugged mountain gorge, accessible only by trail or cross-country travel. This is the only classified wild area east of the Mississippi.

Fishing is comparatively good, and the yearly managed hunts for deer, bear, and smaller game draw large numbers of sportsmen. There are 7 wildlife management areas, totaling 262,000 acres, administered cooperatively with the State. On these a carefully planned restocking and habitat rehabilitation program is being carried out, and hunting and fishing are permitted, under restrictions, to maintain the supply of game. Other parts of the forest not in the intensive management and demonstration areas are also open to hunting and fishing. State game and fish laws apply to all national-forest areas. Information regarding managed hunts, open seasons, bag limits, etc., can be obtained directly from the Forest Supervisor or State game officials.

Public Enemy No. 1 of all forest values is fire. Nine out of ten such fires are caused by man. Smokers' fires, campfires, hunters' warming fires, brush-burning fires—these head the list. The foresters of the Pisgah ask your help in preventing fires and in protecting your forest heritage. They will be glad to help you use and enjoy this forest. Get acquainted with them; they are good men to know. You will find the Forest Supervisor in the Pioneer Building, 42 North French Broad Street, Asheville, N. C. District Rangers are stationed at Lenoir, Marion, Burnsville, Pisgah Forest (near Brevard), and Hot Springs.



Alpine gardens atop Roan Mountain.



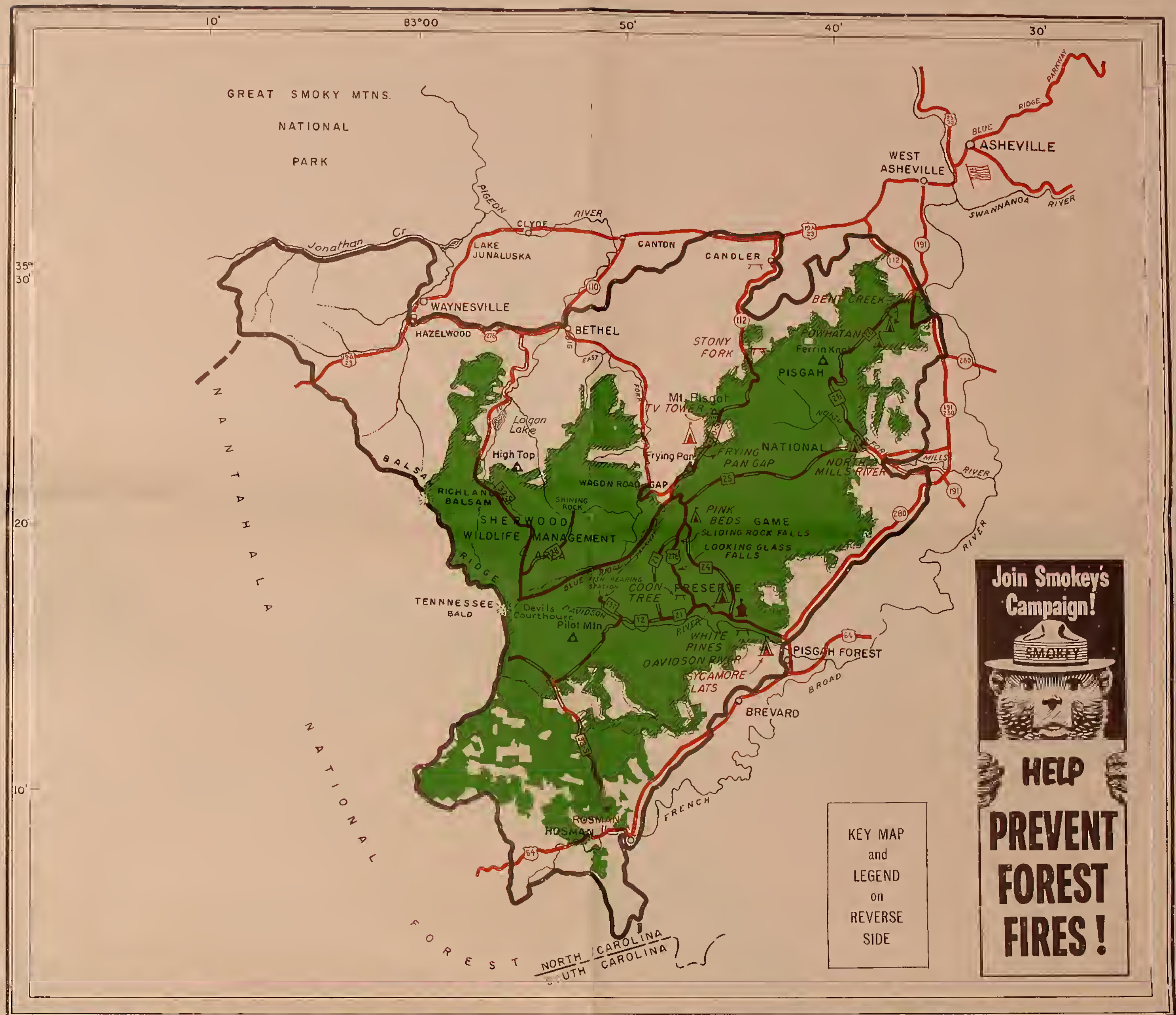
Recreation areas are provided for healthful outdoor activities.

F-462599



Clear streams and lakes provide good fishing for the sportsman.

F-463187



Join Smokey's Campaign!

HELP PREVENT FOREST FIRES!



Forestry is balanced with agriculture in the highlands.

F-463144



Young yellow-poplar stands are common in the valleys.

F-465110

YOUR FORESTS ARE WORTH PROTECTING



A sustained timber crop provides lumber for many uses.

LEAVE A CLEAN CAMP



Boy Scout Camp at John Rock, Pisgah District.

F-463147



Boy Scout Camp at John Rock, Pisgah District.

